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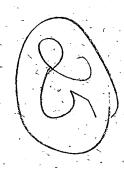
.25X1

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

imagery analysis report

Road Construction

Matagalpa – Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua (S)



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ROAD CONSTRUCTION MATAGALPA – PUERTO CABEZAS, NICARAGUA (S)

- 1. (S/WN) The Nicaraguan Government is constructing an improved, all-weather road into the remote region of northeastern Nicaragua. This construction was initially observed on imagery of August 1980. The road will extend between Matagalpa, where it will connect with the existing western Nicaraguan roadnet, and the Caribbean port city of Puerto Cabezas (Figure 1).
- 2. (S/WN) The Matagalpa Puerto Cabezas road will be 190 nautical miles (nm) long and will incorporate newly constructed road segments with improved segments of existing roads. As of April 1982, 130 nm of road had been completed, 26 nm of road were under construction, and 34 nm of road remained to be improved or constructed.
- 3. (S/WN) The construction of bridges over at least 34 river crossing points ranging in length from 10 to 105 meters has been the most time-consuming aspect of the road construction (inset table, Figure 1). By April, 19 bridges were serviceable (Figure 2), and bridge construction was underway at five other river crossings (Figure 3). Construction of bridges at the ten remaining river crossings had not started.
- 4. (S/WN) Nine construction camps have been observed along the road. Typical equipment observed in the construction camps included cranes, graders, bulldozers, bucket loaders, scrapers, and tractors (Figure 4). Some of the equipment reportedly has Soviet markings.¹

REFERENCES

(S/WN) All applicable imagery acquired from and all applicable satellite imagery acquired through was used in the preparation of this 25X1 report. MAPS OR CHARTS DMA. Tactical Pilotage Chart, Series TPC, Sheet K-25B, 2d ed, May 79, scale 1:500,000 (UNCLASSIFIED) DOCUMENT 1. 470th MI GP. IR 2 231 0252 80, Observation of Russian/Cuban Road Project (U), 141830Z May 80 (CONFIDENTIAL 25X1 (S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to 25X1 Third World Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, 25X1

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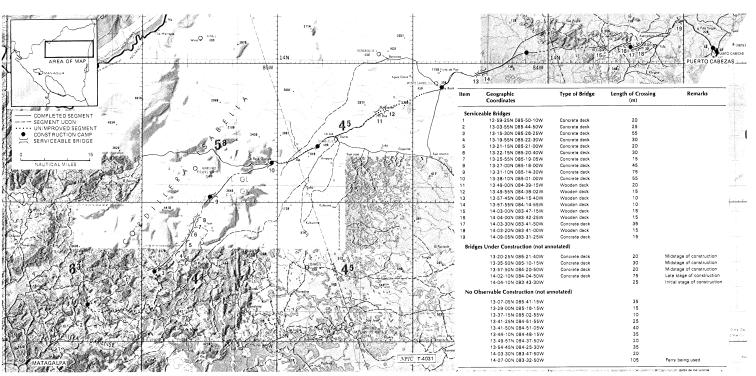
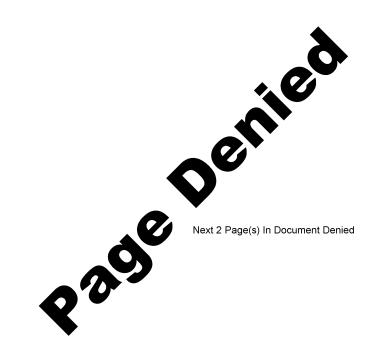


FIGURE 1. LOCATION AND STATUS OF MATAGALPA – PUERTO CABEZAS ROAD, NICARAGUA



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